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INSECT AND DISEASE REPORT



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FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE DETECTION SURVEY OF GLACIER NATIONAL PARK, MONTANA

by

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During August 1971, Glacier National Park was flown to detect current insect activity, and was ground checked during October 1971. The following is a brief resume of current conditions.

MOUNTAIN PINE BEETLE, Dendroctonus ponderosae Hopk.--Mountain pine beetle activity appears to be at about the same level as 1970. Some "hot spots" died out from 1970 to 1971, while others increased in size.

Largest infestation is located in T. 34 N., R. 20 W., sections 28, 29, 32, and 33. Variable plots (BA-20) taken show 71 percent of the stand is lodgepole pine, 18 percent western larch, and 10 percent spruce. In 1970, 17 percent of the lodgepole pine was killed within the infested area. Approximately 20 percent of the remaining lodgepole stand contains 1971 attacks. Average d.b.h. of attacked trees is 12.6 inches.

A 6:1 ratio of brood to parent adults that currently exists means that sufficient brood is present to maintain the outbreak at its present level through next year. We expect at least as many or more trees will be infested in 1972.

One group of about 100 mountain pine beetle infested western white pine occurs in Sections 1 and 12 along the trail to Rogers Lake.

DOUGLAS-FIR BEETLE, Dendroctonus pseudotsugae Hopk.--Douglas-fir beetle faders, varying in groups from 1-10 trees per group, are scattered along the north sides of Bowman and Logging Lakes. Number of faders appears to have decreased from 1970.